

## **MINUTES OF THE TOWN BOARD MEETING**

7:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 5, 2003

Present were Dick Grant, Chairman, Marsha Jones, Supervisor, Steve Peetz, Supervisor; Judy Ashford, Clerk-Treasurer and Tim McCumber, Deputy Clerk/Deputy Treasurer. Grant called the meeting to order and determined that it had been properly noticed. Peetz moved, Jones seconded to approve the minutes of the July 1, 2003, meeting. Motion passed. Peetz moved, Grant seconded to accept the financial statements. Motion passed.

### **CITIZEN COMMENT**

Vernon Young stated that he had heard the public accesses in the town were up for sale. Grant responded that there is no action on the part of the town to market or sell any accesses.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

The clerk read a letter from Dennis Hahn objecting to a rental property on Grace St. The clerk read a letter from Dennis Benn regarding the location of a common property on Suekay. Grant said it was a matter for Sauk County. The clerk read a letter from Neil and Susan Hoernke regarding possible purchase of a public access.

### **REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

Grant reported that the town had purchased 700 gallons of lp gas for a set price of \$1.099 per gallon. Peetz reported that the proposed fire department budget for 2004 was \$133,953. The budget would need to be approved by the town at its September board meeting.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Grant said that the issue of a multi-family dwelling on Grace Street is under investigation. The issue of a proposed seaplane ordinance was brought to the town's attorney. Grant wanted to know if such an ordinance would be enforceable and had been court tested. The attorney said there were other such ordinances in Wisconsin and still is researching the matter.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Lavern Gruber of Dan Mar Court was present to discuss the town's plan to remove cottonwood trees on Dan Mar. He wishes to keep the ones on his property for landscaping purposes. Grant said that Gruber and Faye Schneller own properties jointly and separately totaling about 200 foot of frontage on Dan Mar. He had spoken with Schneller and she stated she did not want the trees removed although she would appreciate it if the town would removed any dead or diseased trees on her property. Dennis Beich was present and explained there were about 125 trees on Dan Mar and 25 to 30 on White Oak Court that will be removed. Grant said cottonwoods fall easily onto town roads and this is a safety issue. He thought it would be best to remove the trees and all residents had been notified. Grant explained a form the town had drawn up for property owners who refuse to have trees on their property in the road right of way removed. Signing the form relieves the town of any responsibility for any damage to a resident's property. Grant asked the board to permit he and Beich to meet with Gruber and decide which trees Gruber would like to save. Peetz so moved; Jones seconded. Motion passed.

Beich discussed road work for 2003 and said that paving on Kentview and Devil's Delight Rd. were complete. Dan Mar will be repaved and several roads will receive crack sealing. Brush cutting is also needed in several locations, particularly the intersection of Bluff and Reusch roads.

Beich had distributed a plan for major road work needed for 2004 through 2007 to the board. He said that he would hold back \$20,000 from the 2003 budget to 2004 to repave Owls Head Road.

Neil and Susan Hoernke were present to discuss possible purchase of a public access. Grant told them the ultimate decision on selling town property must be done at a Special Town Meeting or the Annual Town Meeting. A Special Town Meeting may be called by the town board or by a certain number of residents. Legal counsel has not yet informed the board as to how to handle the current request for purchase of an access that was received by the board in May. Grant wished to table the matter until the attorney advises the board. Hoernke stated he would be interested in making an offer. Grant moved to table; Peetz seconded. Motion passed.

Grant announced his appointments to the Board of Appeals. He appointed Mary Carol Solum, Chair; members Rick Richards, Pat Sereg, Wendy Sitton, Cathy Koepp and Secretary, Tim McCumber. Jones moved to approve the appointments; Peetz seconded. Motion passed.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Peetz moved to adjourn; Grant seconded. Motion passed.

## **MINUTES OF MEETINGS OF JULY 20 AND AUGUST 7, 2003**

Chairman Grant, Supervisor Peetz and Clerk-Treasurer Ashford met with Wagner and Sons, the contractor for mowing the two town cemeteries at St. John's Lutheran Cemetery at 1:00 p.m., Sunday, July 20. The new contractor was not aware of the expectations of the town and what particular sections had to be mowed. It was discussed that Beich would take care of brushing down the sumac trees that were quite invasive at the cemetery. After agreement on several matters Peetz moved to adjourn, Grant seconded. Motion passed.

The board met at 6:00 p.m., Thursday, August 7 at the town hall to approve the PAD for Devil's Head. Present were Grant, Peetz, Jones, Ashford and McCumber. Grant asked McCumber if all the paperwork was in order and it was. Grant moved, Jones seconded, to approve PAD 11-03, an all inclusive PAD for the Devil's Head property. Motion passed. Peetz moved, Grant seconded, to adjourn. Motion passed.

**Town Officers:** Richard Grant, Chair, 493-2106; Marsha Jones, Supervisor, 644-0506; Steve Peetz, Supervisor, 493-2669; Judy Ashford, Clerk-Treasurer, 493-2588; Tim McCumber, Deputy Clerk/Deputy Treasurer and Zoning Administrator, 643-6332. **Assessor:** Steve Mahlik, Equity Appraisal, LLC, 608/826-0009. E-mail address: [townmerr@merr.com](mailto:townmerr@merr.com). **Note: Building permits are required in the Town of Merrimac. Please contact any of the above listed people with questions.**